

REMARKS

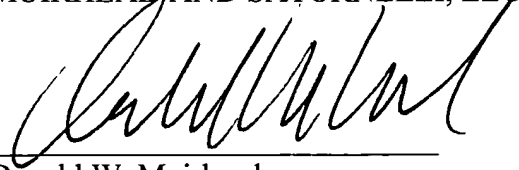
This paper is being provided in response to the April 11, 2006 Office Action for the above-referenced application. In this response, Applicants have amended claims 1-4, 6-8, and 11-20 in order to clarify that which Applicants deem to be the invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the modifications to the claims are supported by the originally-filed application.

The rejection of claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter has been addressed by claim amendments provide herein in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the Office Action. Applicants note that the claimed practical application is the transfer of data from at least one local storage device to at least one remote storage device. The claimed result that is concrete, useful, and tangible is the data that was previously at the local storage device being copied to the remote storage device in an orderly fashion using the claimed sequence number mechanism. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, has been addressed by claim amendments provide herein in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the Office Action. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

Based on the above, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all outstanding rejections and objections. Favorable consideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. Should there be any questions after reviewing this paper, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 508-898-8603.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date

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